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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 9 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letter addressed to you by the Israeli Representative to the United Nations, dated 6 March 2001 (A/55/823-S/2001/197), and its attachment, the exchanged letters of mutual recognition signed by Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin in September of 1993. I refer as well to other previous letters by the representative of Israel, which contained similar accusations levelled at the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian leadership.

The crux of the Palestinian-Israeli peace process is indeed the mutual recognition between the two sides and the agreement to implement Security Council resolution 242 (1967) upon conclusion of a transitional period of five years. However, in spite of the achievements of the peace process, the Israeli side has over the years adopted many policies undermining the process and its crux as well as its successful conclusion. The new Israeli Government, even after the end of the transitional period and it extensions, is calling for yet another interim agreement, thus attempting to escape implementation of resolution 242 and abandon existing agreements altogether.

With regard to the ongoing Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people, which began on 28 September 2000, Israeli accusations are indeed preposterous. It is the Israeli occupying army and the Israeli settlers who are killing and wounding Palestinian civilians and who are effectively and severely punishing the entire Palestinian population under occupation, using the most sophisticated military machinery. Until now, we have nevertheless taken Israeli accusations as attempts to divert attention from reality and to evade responsibility, albeit partially. However, we believe that the increasing intensity of those accusations, including the above-mentioned letter, might indicate Israeli preparation for even worse and much more dangerous actions.

Several hostile Israeli statements allude to such a possibility as well, including statements by the Chief of Staff of the Israeli occupying army, Lt. General Shaul

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Mofaz, who bears special responsibility for the illegal actions of the Israeli occupying forces, and some ministers in the new Israeli Government. For example, on 7 March 2001, the Israeli Public Security minister, Uzi Landau, stated that it was "not enough to build defensive walls, we must take the battle into the adversary's camp". Further, Minister Ze'evi, in an article in the Ma'ariv newspaper on 4 March 2001, affirmed that he and his movement called for the transfer of Palestinians as a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. In defending his position, he claimed that other historic Israeli leaders had supported transfer and that some of them had even carried it out in 1948.

We are sharing our serious concerns in this regard with the international community so that it is forewarned and remains vigilant in order to contribute to the prevention of potentially worse Israeli positions and actions against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian leadership.

In the meanwhile, the bloody Israeli military campaign against our people continues. Today, Israeli settlers shot a Palestinian shepherd, who is now in critical condition, claiming that he exhibited a "threatening posture". I also wish to refer to previous letters to you on the matter, dated from 29 September 2000 to 2 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2000/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2000/175; and A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189). Since my last letter to you on 2 March, five more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, bringing the total number of Palestinian martyrs to 371 persons. (The names of the five martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) Many more have also been injured, including 20 wounded just today.

At the same time, in addition to the closure being imposed by Israel, the occupying Power, on the entire Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, since 7 March the Israeli occupying forces have isolated Bir Zeit University and the surrounding area in the West Bank, which is home to 70,000 individuals. Such closures, curfews and measures of isolation continue to devastate the already difficult socio-economic conditions of the entire Palestinian territory.

We repeat our urgent call for the provision of protection for the Palestinian civilians and the establishment of the United Nations observer force in this regard.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as documents of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 9 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Saturday, 3 March 2001 through Monday, 5 March 2001)

Saturday, 3 March 2001

1. Aida Dawoud Feteha
2. Baher Shafeek Odeh
3. Ahmed Mohammed Hassan Allan

Sunday, 4 March 2001

Ra'ed Shehdah Al-Halees

Monday, 5 March 2001

Osama Ibrahim Naghnaghiah

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General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 9 March 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement (see annex) by an official source of the Foreign Ministry of the State of Qatar on Friday, 9 March 2001, concerning the statement of the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Colin Powell, before the United States Congress on Jerusalem and the transfer of the American Embassy to that city.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly under agenda item 40 "The situation in the Middle East".

(*Signed*) Adel **Al-Khal**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 9 March 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

An official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar has stated that Qatar, which occupies the presidency of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, followed with deep concern the statements which the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Colin Powell, made before the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives on the subject of Jerusalem and the transfer of the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. Qatar rejects statements of this type and the decisions which the United States Congress has taken with a view to recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and transferring the United States Embassy to that city, since they violate Security Council resolution 478 (1980) and run counter to the efforts to establish a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region, especially as the United States is one of the principal sponsors of the Middle East peace process.

The State of Qatar, which occupies the presidency of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, feels certain that the United States Government, in its wisdom, will be able to settle this matter, which is a particularly sensitive one for both Muslims and Christians throughout the world.

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Security Council

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9 March 2001
English
Original: French

Letter dated 8 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the violent attacks near the village of Tanusevci.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Pierre **Schori**
Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations

01-28177 (E) 090301 090301

Annex to the letter dated 8 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the violent attacks near the village of Tanusevci

The European Union strongly condemns the ethnic Albanian extremist attacks on 4 March near the village of Tanusevci, leading to the death of three FYROM soldiers. Violent acts such as these endanger the stability and security of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and its citizens, and should stop immediately.

The European Union expects that any further action by the authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in response to provocations will be measured.

The European Union calls on all political leaders in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Kosovo to isolate the forces behind the attacks and shoulder their responsibility for peace and stability in the region. In this context the European Union reiterates its strong attachment to the principle of inviolability of borders, including the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

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Security Council

Distr.: General
9 March 2001
English
Original: French

Letter dated 8 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the conclusions of the HDZ-led Croat National Congress of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Pierre **Schori**
Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations

01-28171 (E) 090301 090301

Annex to the letter dated 8 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the conclusions of the HDZ-led Croat National Congress of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The European Union condemns recent unilateral moves by the so-called Croat National Congress of Bosnia and Herzegovina to place themselves outside the provisions of the Dayton/Paris Accords. Such efforts are in vain. They are also to the detriment of the interests of Bosnian Croats, as well as all other people in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The European Union remains committed to the future of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It has called upon the new government to implement the European Union Road Map and thus, as recalled at the Zagreb Summit, take a major step in the efforts to move closer to the Union. The citizens and peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina can, however, only move towards Europe, in the framework of a unified state. Decisions such as those taken by the Croat National Congress will severely impede this process.

The European Union therefore urges all political parties to respect the results of the elections, and expects no further delay in the process of electing delegates to the House of Peoples at the State and Federation levels. It calls in particular on the Bosnian Croat people to work within the legal institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in order to defend their legitimate interests.

The European Union expresses its continued full support to the High Representative in his endeavours to promote the implementation of the Dayton/Paris Accords.

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12 March 2001

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Letter dated 12 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith some useful comments on the letter dated 26 February 2001 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council and circulated as Council document S/2001/174, dated 27 February 2001.

The entire letter is designed to set back all the issues resolved by Security Council resolution 1341 (2001) of 22 February 2001. The letter questions the link between the inter-Congolese dialogue and the final withdrawal of foreign forces; it states a desire by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to dictate the terms of the dialogue; it rejects the offer by Rwanda to withdraw an extra 200 kilometres in the disengagement exercise; it rejects the demilitarization, demobilization, reintegration and resettlement process.

We respectfully wish to remind the Security Council of the following relevant parts of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement (S/1999/815) and resolutions of the Council as we go through the above-mentioned letter point by point for easy reference to it.

1. Inter-Congolese dialogue

The link with the national dialogue, called inter-Congolese political negotiations in the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, is established in article III, paragraph 12, which places the withdrawal of foreign forces in the Calendar in annex B. Paragraph 23 makes annexes A and B integral parts of the Agreement.

The attitude of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, that it can summon the facilitator and dictate modalities of the negotiations, is contrary to the letter and spirit of the Lusaka Agreement (article III, para. 19) and to Security Council resolution 1341 (2001), paragraph 15, also, which call on all Congolese parties to participate in preparation of the dialogue. Specifically chapter 5 of annex A, referred to in paragraph 19 of article III, in its point 5.4 gives the responsibility for consultations to the facilitator, and 5.5 asks the parties to agree on "the timetable and the rules of procedure". The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo cannot presume to be engaged in any of the stated acts without bringing prejudice to the Lusaka Agreement.

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2. Disengagement

Whereas the Security Council "welcomes the commitment of the Rwandan authorities in their letter of 18 February 2001 (S/2001/147), to withdraw their forces ...", as stated in paragraph 4 of resolution 1341 (2001), the Democratic Republic of the Congo calls this an act of bad faith and seeks punitive action. This is intended to denigrate a major contribution to the peace process and mask the failure of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and its allies to reciprocate.

3. Deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)

No comment.

4. Co-location of MONUC and the Joint Military Commission (JMC)

The assessment of security for members of the Joint Military Commission (JMC) is not the responsibility of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Each party to the agreement will make its own evaluation and inform the Political Committee through an appropriate JMC report.

5. Security concerns of neighbouring countries

The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo cannot deny responsibility for Interahamwe/ex-Forces armées rwandaises, and all the other negative forces for that matters, with impunity. Paragraph 22 of article III, of the Lusaka Agreement, states in part: "... The Parties assume full responsibility of ensuring that armed groups operating alongside their troops or on the territory under their control, comply with the processes leading to the dismantling of those groups in particular."

Moreover, Security Council resolution 1341 (2001) in its paragraph 8, "... demands that all parties cease all forms of assistance and cooperation with these groups ...".

Seeking to protect these groups by calling them a pretext for Rwanda's "aggression" shows that Kabila's government is deliberately seeking to continue the conflict by misrepresenting our security concerns. The way to handle any future security concerns along our common border is spelt out in paragraph 21 of article III and chapter 12 of annex A of the Lusaka Agreement.

6. Respect for human rights

The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has just confessed to the brutal murder of a number of people referred to as Lebanese; but the killings of civilians, execution of soldiers, arrests and detentions are carried out daily. Security Council resolution 1341 (2001), adopted before some of these came to light, in paragraph 9 condemns these acts anywhere they occur. Also, linking the prevalence of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in the Congo to foreign forces is nothing but misrepresenting the history of HIV/AIDS in that country where the first cases were found in bigger number than elsewhere in the region as far back as 1985 and where no consistent

and sustained campaign has since been undertaken towards containing the spread of HIV/AIDS on a national level.

7. Provision of humanitarian aid

No comment.

8. Kisangani

Rwanda withdrew its forces from Kisangani in accordance with Security Council resolution 1304 (2000). This was duly reported by the Secretary-General of our organization.

9. Illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

No comment.

I would appreciate if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Joseph W. **Mutaboba**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative